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# GLADIOLUS

1935

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SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA





MEMBER

*American Gladiolus Society*

*California Gladiolus Society*

**A. H. Nichols**

Grower and Propagator of New and Popular

# **GLADIOLUS BULBS**

S A N T A M A R I A

Santa Barbara County  
California

**1935**

A. H. NICHOLS

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NCE again we are coming to you with our list of carefully selected varieties of Gladiolus: chosen for color, growing qualities, size and arrangement of flowers on the spike, as well as keeping qualities and number of blossoms open at once. This last item shows the big difference in the modern Gladiolus and those of even a few years ago. The old ones opened about three at a time, then as the fourth opened, the first one was gone. Now we have six or twelve or more open at once (according to variety), if the bulb be a good sized one.

When our acres are in bloom, we are one of the tourist features of the Coast Highway and as such we heard a glowing account of our gardens coming in over a well known radio station. This last season of bloom brought us many hundreds of visitors from all parts of the country and many of our old customers, who stop year after year to see the gardens, and make a note of the ones they want this season or to place an order.

Now the flowers are gone, but in their place we have a wonderful lot of fine, healthy bulbs to put this beauty into your gardens next blooming season. In this connection, may we say that so often visitors ask, "But why can't we raise such fine flowers? We buy great big bulbs . . ." One reason is that they DO use "great big bulbs." We plant, according to their ideas, rather small bulbs—fine young high crowned ones that, like all fresh young things, human or plants, are ready to forge ahead. Then too, our long growing season (we plant in February and March), and our long pleasant Fall for curing the bulbs out in the air and sunshine do help in making bulbs full of "pep" and vitality. This is borne out by the fact that year after year, our customers re-order for their plantings. Elsewhere you will see some of the nice things they have written us, after our bulbs have bloomed.

## VISITORS CORDIALLY INVITED

Our gardens are located directly on the Coast Highway, U.S. 101, one mile south of Santa Maria. If you are coming this way, drive in and see the flowers when in bloom (June to late August). Seeing them at close range, you will know how they will look in your garden or in the house, for even the best of catalogue descriptions often fail to convey the colors—and you are either disappointed, or miss one you would have liked to have grown. If the flowers are gone, stop in and talk over your garden enthusiasms. Visitors are always welcome, whether they order or not.

## CULTURAL INSTRUCTIONS

When to plant your bulbs is partly a matter of where you live and in spite of the theory that, in California, you can plant any time of year, we recommend early planting; that is, as soon as you are sure the ground is warming, for Gladiolus do not like to start in cold wet ground. In frost-free places, any time after the first of the year. One reason for this advice is that if any pest should decide to move into your garden, they are more likely to do so in the later season when it is hot. Farther on you will find what we have found out about pest control.

If you have heavy soil, sand will help; not just sandy soil but sand such as builders use. Peat is fine if well-mixed into the soil long before planting so that it is thoroughly incorporated with the earth. Otherwise, a lump of peat may come in close contact with the bulb and hold the moisture in one place, thereby causing serious injury to the bulb. If you can prepare the place where you expect to plant the bulbs ahead of time, bonemeal (the finer ground the better), or any good fertilizer can be mixed with the earth, but be sure it is well mixed or particles of it may be washed against the bulb and burn it. Do not use fertilizer at planting time unless you scatter a light dressing over the top of the earth, to be dissolved by the time the bulbs are up and the roots ready to use it.

Do not use manure near any bulb unless the manure is old and well decayed. Plant away from trees and shrubbery as Gladiolus like sunshine. It is a temptation to plant among shrubbery with the picture in mind of the bloom stalks coming up among the greenery, but the roots of the stronger plants use much of the moisture and later it is hard to withdraw the moisture and ripen off the bulbs.

1. Plant from four to six inches deep (large bulbs deeper than small ones), and about six inches apart. A bit deeper if the soil is sandy.
2. Three rows wide gives a better appearance than a single row if staggered in a trench like a checker board, making staking unnecessary, although the taller sorts with many blooms open at once will need support. A stake at each end of the row with twine or wire stretched between and the single spike tied to this shows very little and gives good support. Over-fertilizing will tend to make them "flop", too. But the better sorts have fine straight stems that stand up well.

**USE SOME FERTILIZER FOR FLOWERS**

If you wish to increase the size of your flowers, work in some fertilizer around the plants when they are eight or nine inches high and again when the flower spike begins to show. **Plenty** of water is necessary, too. We have found that a plant has seven leaves before the bloom spike shows and it is then about three weeks before the flowers are at their best. But remember that large florets are bred in the variety and no amount of fertilizer or care can make the flower of a smaller typed sort grow to the size of the newer large kinds. It will improve the spike a lot, but size is in the variety.

# CUTTING BLOOM

The wonderful popularity of Gladiolus has been due to its fine keeping qualities as a cut flower. It has no fragrance to make the air oppressive—new florets keep opening for days.

When cutting flowers use a knife with a small blade. Leave

at least four leaves or else you spoil the bulb for next year. With a little practice you can run your knife blade down along the stalk and get a good long stem without cutting a leaf. In fact, it is better to cut the flower-spike carefully than to let the flower bloom clear out and the stalk ripen seed. If you do not use the flower for cutting, top it later to keep it from forming seed.

## BULBS MUST HAVE CHANCE TO RIPEN

We are often asked: "How long shall I water after the bulbs bloom?" If you will examine a plant you will find that just after blooming time the new bulb makes most of its growth. So water for a month or more, in fact, until the leaves begin to turn brown, then withdraw water if you can and let the bulb and bulblets ripen. Some varieties ripen more quickly so it is hard to give any set rule, but it is best to dig before they die clear down. Never pull the tops off or the bulbs up. Dig them.

After digging, cut the stem off half an inch from the bulb, spread out to dry in the sun being careful to cover lightly with the old tops to avoid any danger of sunburn, and allowed to remain so for a week or ten days. They should then be cured enough for the old bulb to be easily removed. Never pry the old bulb away. Some people leave their bulbs in the ground more than one year, but you will have better flowers if they are dug and allowed to cure.

Do not remove the husks—just clean off the base of the bulb. If you want to save the bulblets, they can be put away in paper sacks or left with the bulbs. In the small garden and with bulbs obtainable at such reasonable prices it seems hardly worth the time and energy to grow bulblets two years to get good bloom from them.

## STORING

As thrip has been found in many localities, I would suggest that for safety (see thrip treatise on page 21) everyone put the bulbs, after they are thoroughly dry, into paper sacks, shoe boxes or some container that can be tightly closed and scatter over them a dusting of Naphthalene flakes, keeping the container closed for two or three weeks to kill any insects or eggs,

then open so the bulbs will have air. Keep them in a cool, dark, well-ventilated place, if you want to retard the time of sprouting.

We advise changing the place of planting if possible as they use certain elements in the soil for growing and it is hard to know exactly what to put back.

"How many bulbs will I get from the bulb I plant?" This varies, but you get one for each bloom spike. Some bulbs throw one, some two and we have had five and six. Of course there is always the bulblet increase, too, but even if you have many bulbs there is **always a thrill about new varieties**. A garden is like a house—it gets out of date in these days of change and improvements.

We are often asked concerning the pronunciation of our flower. The American Gladiolus Society voted to use the word *Gladiolus*, both for singular and plural and most of the growers are so doing. (Glad-e-o-lus.)

# **BEST VARIETIES**

"What are the best varieties?" Price is not a consideration in this. We try to keep up with the advancement being made in varieties and offer the best available in their class and color. THE BEST may be an old well known variety in a certain color or a new, scarce variety in another. Souvenir, Phipps and Picardy are good examples of this.

# BLOOMING DATES

Depending on the variety, soil, temperature, amount of sun and water and size of bulb.

1. Anywhere from 70 to 100 days after planting. If you have late frosts and cold ground, carefully remove the husk, place the bulbs in a warm sunny window so they will sprout. An inch or two sprout started this way and carefully planted hastens blooming date. In this connection it is not advisable to hold your bulbs in storage until the sprouts start and are inches tall; it makes poor, crooked spikes.

## **SIZES TO TRY**

Usually a large bulb will produce the best blooms. Large bulbs average  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, but a medium bulb (1 inch) will give a big bloom, although the spike will not be

quite so tall nor will there be quite so many open at once, and, of course this size costs less. In fact a young medium bulb will produce a far finer spike than an old overgrown one sold at a "bargain" as evidenced in shabby growth and poor spike of bloom. Do not buy bulbs on price alone—be sure the firm from which you buy will make good, if anything goes wrong. We all make mistakes sometimes, but if you will notify us we are only too glad to correct ours. If there are any questions you would like to have answered, we shall be glad to have you write us.

## GIFTS OF BULBS

Have you ever thought of Gladiolus bulbs as Birthday or Christmas Gifts, or for prizes? Every year we are putting up a greater number of boxes of bulbs for Gifts. We put in a fancy box any bulbs you may select, each variety named, of course, and enclose a card which you send us, or a suitable one we select, and mail them for the proper day. In the parts of the country where it is not well to ship during the winter, we send a card to arrive when you desire, saying: "At proper planting time, we will send, etc., the gift of—" then later, when we send the bulbs, we enclose a card saying, "These are the bulbs you have been expecting, the gift of—".

For a gift, add 25c to the catalogue price of the bulbs you wish sent, to cover actual cost to us for appropriate box and card.

No gift order in special wrappings for less than \$1.50.

We are glad at any time to send a catalogue to any of your friends, or, if you have finished with this one, we would appreciate your giving it to some one who is a flower lover.

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The following was written to a customer of ours by her sister about bulbs we sent for her:

*"The lovely Gladiolus bulbs you sent me are blooming again and are just as fine this year. I never saw such large ones nor a violet blue before. It was a delightful gift."*

—Mrs. J. S. H., Indianapolis, Ind.

## LIST OF VARIETIES

**AIDA**—Rich dark purple blue with small violet red blotch in the throat. Velvety and early.

**Large**—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c

**Medium**—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c

**APRICOT GLOW**—Clear apricot with medium sized blooms, especially lovely in flower arrangements. Early.

**Large**—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c

**Medium**—12 for 35c

**ATHERTON**—A new variety, new in shape, lovely in form and color. A clear soft, but not at all pale yellow. A faint glow of pink lights up the throat, star shaped florets with long petals that are not a bit "floppy". Fine spike.

**Large**—\$1.00 each

**Medium**—50c each

**AVE MARIA**—Blended shades of the lighter blues, half way down the throat there is a dash of white touched with points of carmine, which adds character. Many flowers open at once.

**Large**—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c

**Medium**—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c

**BAGDAD**—Soft smoky old rose, almost orange under lights. Tall, new, large flowered and attractive.

**Large**—15c each

**Medium**—10c each

**BETTY BROWN EYES**—Clear orange with red brown blotches on lower petals. Mighty attractive. Medium sized florets.

**Large**—3 for 25c; 12 for \$1.00

**Medium**—4 for 25c; 12 for 60c

**BETTY NUTHALL**—Orange pink with soft yellow throat, beautifully penciled lines of a soft carmine in throat. Tall, late, well ruffled. Increases rapidly. One of the best known and popular gladiolus in the world.

**Large**—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c

**Medium**—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c

**BLUE DANUBE**—Clear amethyst blue with darker blue throat blotch. Tall, straight spike. Not quite as near blue as Konynenburg. Lovely in your garden.

**Large—15c each; 12 for \$1.50**

**Medium—12 for 80c**

**BLUE TRIUMPHATOR**—A huge flowered light lavender blue. If you like soft shades and large flowers of good texture you will like this one.

**Large—15c each**

**Medium—10c each**

**CHAMPLAIN**—The best of the new light blues or soft violet shades. Not at all washed out looking. Fine spikes, tall, healthy, early and one all of the lovers of blue in their gardens will want to grow. Stock still limited.

**Large—\$1.75 each**

**Medium—\$1.25 each**

**Small—80c each**

**CHARLES DICKENS**—If you like the warm tones this is fine. Red purple, soft wine red under lights or in the sun in your garden. Tall, 6-8 well placed velvety flowers open at once. More beautiful in masses than as a single spike. Popular cut flower.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**COMMANDER KOEHL**—This is a real attention getter. Throws huge spikes with large wide open blooms of a brilliant, deep, but not dark, red with no markings or blotches. 6 or 7 open at once. The bronze spike adds to its charm.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**CORYPHEE**—A camelia-like flower of clearest pink. No words can describe its waxy beauty. The white throat adds to its charm; also the ruffled buds. A single floret, a bud or two and some fern, make a beautiful corsage. At its best in cool weather.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**CORAL PRIM**—Small flowered coral pink, fine for vivid flower arrangements, high colored but soft too.

**Large**—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c  
**Medium**—12 for 35c

**DR. F. E. BENNETT**—The well known, bright scarlet, best of scarlet reds to date.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**DR. MOODY**—A good lavender, more pink in tone than Minuet. Taller, but not quite as fine; earlier, so by planting both varieties you can have this beautiful color in your garden over a long period.

**Large**—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c  
**Medium**—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c

**DR. NELSON SHOOK**—A warm tyrian rose (American Beauty shade). Ruffled, many open on a massive spike.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c  
Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**EDITH ROBSON**—One of the best that has come from Australia. Fine spike of light salmon with interesting red blotch. Tall, strong growing and one we are glad to list.

**Large—25c each; 12 for \$2.50  
Medium—15c each; 12 for \$1.50**

**E. I. FARRINGTON**—This is a delightfully ruffled, picric yellow, which is a sulphur shade; not at all pale, but cool and fresh looking. We like its fine form.

**Large**—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c  
**Medium**—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c

**EMILE AUBRUN**—A very large, wide open flower, unusual and hard to describe. Fuchsia shades, gray overtone, brilliant cherry blotch. Might be called a red smoky, decidedly different and a good keeper.

**Large**—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c  
**Medium**—12 for 40c

**EMMA**—Very large salmon with a red velvet blotch, long spike with many open at once. One of the best blotched pink.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—12 for 40c**

**ETHELYN**—A fine bronzy yellow, good sized flowers. Fine any place. As a cutting variety it would be hard to find a better one.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**

**Medium—12 for 35c**

**FRANK J. McCOY**—Large rose pink with a scarlet blotch on lower petals. A long striking spike with ten or more open at once. Fine cut flower. Named for Mr. McCoy of the Santa Maria Inn.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—12 for 40c**

**GAFFER**—Rich, velvety dark red, our own variety. You will like it.

**Large—15c each; 12 for \$1.50**

**Medium—10c each**

**GAY HUSSAR**—A clear orange with shades of orange in throat. Tall, well-placed flowers.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**GLORIANA**—Well named clear salmon of a lovely shade. Many open on a good spike. Rather early. This season we have had many stop and tell us how well they liked it in their gardens.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**

**Medium—12 for 35c**

**GOLDEN DREAM**—Deep yellow, no markings. Tall with medium season of bloom.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**GOLDFINCH**—Well named; the deepest clear yellow to date. Deeper than above, petals slightly reflexed.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—12 for 40c**

**GOLDEN FRILLS**—A ruffled, "sassy", golden yellow prim with pink lines in the throat. A vase of sunshine. You will like it in table arrangements.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**

**Medium—12 for 35c**

**HEAVENLY BLUE**—A clear, light, lavender blue with darker blue lines in the throat. In some climates it is almost too light, but, like the little girl with the curl, when it is good it is very good.

**Large—12 for 60c  
Medium—12 for 35c**

**HELEN WILLS**—A fine white that opens with a canary flush but blooms out a clear white. Taller than most whites, lily-like. Florists like it. Fine keeper. Spikes good and stiff. Some like it, some prefer Mammoth White. Both are good.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**KING ARTHUR**—At last there is enough stock available to list this for garden use, but it is still a grand Show variety. Immense, very ruffled flowers on a long spike, which open very flat. Like an orchid in shape and color, which is the rosy lavender so often seen in hyacinths and orchids. A prize winner when well grown.

**Large—35c each**  
**Medium—20c each**

**MAGNA BLANCA**—This extra large white has a very soft sulphur blotch on the lower petals that gives it an ivory tone. Really at its best from a medium bulb.

**Large—15c each**  
**Medium—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**MAID OF ORLEANS**—Milky white with cream throat. Tall, with many open, well placed flowers. Good.

**Large—15c each; 12 for \$1.20**

**MAMMOTH WHITE**—Immense pure white. Six or more inches across each floret. 5-6 open. The spike is like a large white plume the petals of the florets are so broad. Good keeper when cut. More talked of than any flower we grew this season. In the windows of the famous Santa Maria Inn it was a sensation.

**Large—2 for 25c; 12 for \$1.00  
Medium—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**

**MARMORA**—A tall lavender gray. Clear color, not a smoky, with petunia purple blotches. Large flowers, many open. Most unusual. Makes you think of gray georgette. No description can make you see it.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**MARY FREY**—An early rose lavender with pretty glowing throat. Its chief value is its early blooming.

**Large—12 for 75c**  
**Medium—12 for 40c**

**MINUET**—A winner at the shows, in the garden, or as a cut flower. This large flower, clear lavender, is a joy to grow, with its fine placement and waxy texture. It blooms later than Moody from the same sized bulbs. Easily at the top of the lavender list and only outclassed by Picardy on any color list.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**MOORISH KING**—A very dark and beautiful deep red variety. Much darker than Koehl, but not as dark as Persia, but much taller. Stock still scarce.

**Large—50c each**  
**Medium—35c each**

**MOTHER MACHREE**—Another “hard to describe”. Light gray with flashes of grenadine pink, yellow throat that makes it look as if lighted within. Fine spike and beautifully shaped florets. Very different and some think it the most beautiful variety.

**Large—15c each; 12 for \$1.00**  
**Medium—12 for 60c**

**MRS. F. J. KNUDSEN**—A good violet blue, with pretty throat.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**MRS. LEON DOUGLAS**—Too well known to need description, huge begonia rose with scarlet splashes. Blooms earlier than Phipps, so you need them both. Fine from medium sized bulbs.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—12 for 40c**

**MRS. VAN KONYNENBURG**—Pronounced Ko-nine-n-burg in case you are not sure (we were not). This is the wisteria blue the most popular "blue" of those we grow. Tall, good sized flowers and as the spike opens out the color is still a delightful blue.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**MRS. W. P. SISSON**—Cameo pink large waxy ruffled flowers.  
Its only fault is the spike could come a bit taller for the  
size of the flowers.

**Large—12 for 60c  
Medium—12 for 40c**

**NANCY HANKS**—Apricot orange, reddish throat lines. Vigorous grower and rapid multiplier. Good cut flower and stands heat well.

Large—12 for 60c  
Medium—12 for 40c

**NETHERLAND PRINCE**—A very showy bright salmon. Very tall, big flowers, with many open at once. We like it.

**Large—15c each; 12 for \$1.50**  
**Medium—10c each; 12 for \$1.00**

**ORANGE BUTTERFLY** — The best orange primulinus, really tangerine shading through orange to yellow down in the throat. As many as eight or more butterfly-like flowers open at once on a long graceful bronzy spike. A decided "hit" with our many visitors.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**  
**Medium—12 for 35c**

**ORANGE QUEEN**—Beautiful soft light orange, deeper at the edges, orange red lines in throat. Tall, clean, reliable grower. Good sized flowers, 4-6 open. One of the old reliables.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**

**"OUR SELECTION"**—A large salmon red with brighter blotch bordered cream. The outer edge is usually flaked soft gray. The name was given in Australia by some system of voting as to popularity on a show. 6-8 open at once.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**PATRICIA CARTER**—This lovely shell pink flower of waxy beauty with the small typed flowers is exquisite in flower arrangements for the table or in corsages where the large sized florets would be out of scale.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**  
**Medium—12 for 35c**

**PAUL PFITZER**—A vivid purple violet, darker and more blue in tone than Dickens.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—12 for 40c**

**PELEGRINA**—The best dark violet blue, almost sapphire, that we have seen. No red in throat; blotch is dark blue. If you like the blue ones you will like this. Much more blue than Aida.

**Large—15c each; 12 for \$1.50**  
**Medium—10c each; 12 for \$1.00**

**PERSIA**—Dark red, dark enough to appear almost black; in fact, the buds are like black velvet. Not as tall as some varieties. Always popular with our masculine visitors.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 40c**

**PFITZER'S TRIUMPH**—A giant flower on a giant spike. Orange red, with a smaller darker red orange spot on lower petals. The huge flowers are well placed, open flat and keep well. Extra good.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—12 for 40c**

**PICARDY**—The most sensational flower of delicate apricot peach pink. Never has a new gladiolus leaped into popularity so rapidly. Has won on all the shows, here in America, and in Australia it has been a knock-out. It is tall, of wonderful color, huge flowers and increases rapidly. One of which you can never have too many. It increases so rapidly the price has dropped amazingly. The medium bulbs make very fine spikes.

**Large—15c each; 12 for \$1.00**  
**Medium—12 for 65c**  
**Small—12 for 40c**

**PIRIE, JOHN T.**—This is hard to describe. Well liked in our showroom. Mahogany brown shading to mauve, butterfly markings of red bordered gold in the throat. Tall and outstanding, decidedly different. The florets are of medium size.

**Large—12 for 60c  
Medium—12 for 40c**

**PHIPPS, MR. W. H.**—One of the best, soft salmon pink, blended a bit darker. Many open at once, making a fine spike.

**Large—12 for 75c  
Medium—12 for 50c**

**PHYLLIS MILLER**—We are glad to offer this fine new variety from Holland in color similar to Coryphe, but with a little more life in it and somewhat sturdier in growth. Florets open flatter and color carried to the tip, as the buds show the pink.

**Large—3 for 50c  
Medium—3 for 35c**

**PRIMROSE PRINCESS**—The finest yellow we grow. Neither Daffodil nor yet pale yellow, but in between. Shaded amber, nice throat, large florets well placed. Has side shoots for extra cutting. You will like its regal beauty. Prolific.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**PURPLE GLORY**—Not purple at all but a rich, velvety crimson, darker throat blotches. Tall. Always a favorite.

**Large—3 for 25¢; 12 for 75¢**

**RADIANT**—Fine strawberry pink prim for flower arrangements.  
Good.

**Large—12 for 50c  
Medium—12 for 35c**

**RED GLORY**—Very beautiful ruffled glistening cardinal red. Visitors exclaim over it each year.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—12 for 40c**

**RED LORY**—Carmine rose with purplish red blotches, many open at once. When well grown is outstanding.

**Large—3 for 35c**

**RED PHIPPS**—Orange red, not quite as large as W. H. Phipps but earlier.

**Large—2 for 25c; 12 for \$1.25**

**REVUE**—One of the outstanding with garden lovers. A beautiful primulinus of a soft tea color, about the last fourth of each petal being a soft rose pink. To add to its charm, the anthers are blue. Frenchy and attractive. Lovely in arrangements with pink roses.

**Large**—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c  
**Medium**—12 for 35c

**ROI ALBERT**—About as hard to put in a color description as a Paisley shawl which it resembles. A soft toned smoky with a red throat laid on soft yellow, sanded red. Can you see the Paisley or tapestry effect?

**Large—20c each; 12 for \$2.00**

**ROSE ASH**—The well known ashes of roses Gladiolus. Pastel shades. Tall growing and well liked.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 60c**  
**Medium—12 for 35c**

**ROSE MIST**—Color rose red only more red than rose. The very edge of each petal and even the leaves are edged neutral gray. A lovely exotic spike.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**  
**Medium—12 for 35c**

**ROSA RAISA**—Another blue for your collection.

**Large—3 for 25c**

**SALBACH'S ORCHID**—This is really a rose pink minuet, very lovely under artificial light. Long spike with many wide open flowers of fine form. Extra good.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for \$1.00  
Medium—5 for 25c; 12 for 60c**

**SALBACH'S PINK**—A long graceful spike with 6-8 flowers open at once. Clear geranium pink with soft carmine throat markings.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—12 for 40c**

**SCARLET BEDDER**—True Mandarin red, lacquer red, large flowered finely spaced on a bronzy stem. A different looking spike in its graceful build. Try them in a Japanese arrangement.

**Large—4 for 25c; 12 for 50c**  
**Medium—12 for 35c**

**SEA FOAM**—A really good small flowered white with just enough ivory to keep it from being dead white. Try it with fern in a green glass bowl or one of the opaque white ones, or with a touch of some small sized flowers of shell pink.

**Large—12 for 50c  
Medium—12 for 35c**

**SEÑORITA**—A different shape; very large, wide open flowers with a salmon tinge, and carmine throat markings. A flower of frills and thrills. Our visitors like it.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**  
**Medium—12 for 40c**

**SUNROOM MIXTURE**—See Treasure Chests.

**TAWNY**—A novelty that would attract attention in any garden. Unusual color and shape. Its name suggests its color, almost brown with a yellow undertone. Long petals, unlike any other *Gladiolus* in form.

**Large—15c each  
Medium—10c each**

**TIPLADY**—We grow the improved. A selection from the old favorite. Tall, medium flowers of orange saffron, less inclined to crooked spikes than the original. Early cut flower.

**Large—12 for 50c**

**Medium—12 for 35c**

**VEILCHENBLAU**—A dark violet blue, lighter in throat. Fine spike, many open. Between Pelegrina and Van Konynenburg in color.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—12 for 35c**

**VICTOR**—Striking blood red flower with large pure white blotches on three lower petals and white mid-rib on two upper. Award of Merit, British Gladiolus Society.

**Large—3 for 25c; 12 for 75c**

**Medium—12 for 40c**

**WURTEMBERGIA**—Very large brilliant red with straw blotches in throat. Very tall, strong growing plant. The best in this color. Conspicuous anywhere.

**Large—15c each; 12 for \$1.50**

**Medium—12 for \$1.00**

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*"The glads I bought from you for Mrs. — have been the best we have ever had."—T. B., Gardener to Mrs. C.— a large estate.*

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*"The gladiolus bulbs we received from you were in such excellent condition we are curious to know just how you handled them."—B. S., Purchasing Agent for a large corporation.*

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*"You should see the wonderful flowers I have had. I sprayed once a week and although all my neighbors had thrips I had none. I want to order more this year."—Mrs. M., Boston, Mass.*

# TREASURE CHESTS

Eight outstanding collections, comprising many of the new and rare kinds, together with the best popular varieties. In buying these collections, you not only save money but you are getting the best stock obtainable. All selected from our regular stock. Collections postpaid.

# Blue Treasure Chest

6 Aida 6 Veilchenblau  
6 Ave Maria 6 Mrs. Knudsen  
6 Mrs. Van Konynenburg 6 Heavenly Blue  
**36 large bulbs, 1 1/4 in. up, labeled, for \$2.00, postpaid**  
**36 medium sizes for \$1.25**

# **Golden Orange Chest**

5 Orange Queen                        5 Golden Dream  
5 Senorita                            5 Goldfinch  
5 Orange Butterfly                    5 Primrose Princess  
**30 large bulbs, 1 1/4 in. up, labeled, for \$1.50, postpaid**  
**30 medium sizes, 80c**

# Most Popular Chest

6 Veilchenblau                            6 Coryphee  
6 Mrs. Van Konynenburg                6 Betty Nuthall  
6 Minuet                                 6 Primrose Princess  
**36 large bulbs, 1 1/4 in. up, labeled, \$2.00, postpaid.**  
**36 medium sizes, \$1.25**

# Patriotic Chest

4 Commander Koehl                  4 Helen Wills  
4 Veilchenblau

**Large—12 for 60, postpaid**

**Medium—12 for 30¢, postpaid.**

## Oriental Rug Chest

2 Koehl (Red)	2 Persia (Dark Red)
2 Veilchenblau (Blue)	2 Aida (Dark Blue)
2 Senorita (Orange)	2 Dickens (Wine Red)
2 Pfitzers Triumph (Flame)	
<b>14 large bulbs, 75c, postpaid</b>	

## "Smoky" Treasure Chest

2 Marmorata	2 "Our Selection"
2 Emile Auburn	2 Roi Albert
2 Mother Machree	2 Bagdad
2 J. T. Pirie	
<b>14 large bulbs (7 varieties), 85c, postpaid</b>	

Order early or we may be sold out in some of the Chest varieties as the demand has always been heavy.

## Santa Maria Chest

A choice collection in a wide, carefully selected range of colors at a special price.

**Large sizes, 1 1/4 in. up, 100 for \$4.00; 50 for \$2.50, postpaid**

**Medium sizes, 3/4 in. up, 100 for \$2.00; 50 for \$1.35, postpaid**

## DeLuxe Chest

2 Picardy	2 Mammoth White
2 Salbach's Orchid	2 Phyllis Miller
2 Pelegrina	2 King Arthur

**\$1.80 Value**

**12 No. 2 or 1 1/4 in. bulbs at the special price of \$1.50, postpaid**

## Picardy Special

1 No. 2	10 No. 4
10 No. 3	10 No. 5

**\$1.35 Value for \$1.10, postpaid**

If you are interested in Picardy by the hundred in any size, we will be glad to quote. It makes fine spikes from smaller sizes.

## Our "Sunroom Mixture"

Many years ago, when most of the Primulinus or smaller type gladiolus were rather dull in color and very hooded, we realized the need of "prims" for bowls, small vases, corsages, etc., where the large flowered types could not be used. So we started selecting from the newer varieties, as they were introduced, a fine range of colors, with the result that we can now offer a very choice assortment. These range in color from primrose yellow through apricot, orange, coral pink tones to a clear red, all in warm sunny shades.

On the Flower Shows, we find a rapidly increasing interest in the use of Flower Arrangements — "Table Arrangements", "Mantle Arrangements", "Japanese", etc. The following mixtures are the most useful, especially the medium sized bulbs, as they make shorter spikes and are so inexpensive—and we will put up any special selection at the prices given below.

One day a customer came in and seeing a bowl of them in the varied colors said: "Just what I want for my sunroom, colorful but not the large heavy spikes." Hence the name Sunroom Mixture.

All are named varieties—the best obtainable in their form and colorings grown and carried by name and put up in these collections as you order them—not just hit and miss "mixture" of odds and ends.

### SUNROOM MIXTURE

Ada de Poy (Apricot)	Golden Amber (Amber Yellow)
Tiplady, Imp. (Orange Pink)	Golden Frills (Golden)
Coral Prim (Soft Coral)	Souvenir (Daffodil Yellow)
Radiant (Bright Coral)	Scarlet Bedder (Mandarin Red)
Revue (Pink)	Orange Butterfly (Orange)
Apricot Glow (Apricot)	Patricia Carter (Pink)

**Large bulbs—12 for 50c; 30 for \$1.00; 100 for \$2.50**

**Medium bulbs—no dozens; 50 for \$1.00; 100 for \$1.50**

**Mixed sizes for longer blooming season—100 for \$2.00**

**All the above are postpaid**

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## CHARGES PREPAID

All retail orders amounting to \$1.50 or more will be sent post or express charges prepaid. On orders of less than \$1.50, please add 15c for packing and shipping costs.

## GUARANTEE

We guarantee all bulbs sent out by us to be first class stock, just as represented. Of course, we cannot guarantee results of planting, culture, etc. But should varieties not prove true to name, we are only human so that mistakes do sometimes occur even with all care given, and in that case we will gladly make replacement. If shipment does not arrive in good condition, please notify us at once.

## TERMS

It will be of advantage to us both if you send cash with order. But 25% down and the balance can go forward C.O.D.—but the postoffice asks a fee on all C.O.D. orders, which you may like to save.

## SHIPPING DATES

Bulbs will be ready about December 1, unless special arrangements for earlier shipment is made, but where freezing weather prevails, shipments from December to March 15 go forward at the purchaser's risk. But place your order **early** for on many varieties we are sold out later in the season and customers who wait to order are disappointed. WE DO NOT SUBSTITUTE UNLESS TOLD TO DO SO.

## SIZES

A Large (L) bulb will average 1½ inches or better; Medium (M) will be an inch or better, and will throw a fine spike. For Shows, however, only Large should be planted, for quick bloom, height of spike and number open.

## PRICES

Prices in this catalogue cancel all previous quotations. Those who placed orders while in our gardens this summer may notice some changes in prices of a few varieties which yielded better than we anticipated. To those we will send extra bulbs in adjustment. We always, however, send some extra count depending on the size of your order.

All orders accepted subject to prior sale.

## SALES TAX

California customers will please add 2½% to the amount of their order for Sales Tax.

## REFERENCES

Bank of America, Santa Maria; Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles, Santa Maria Branch.

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*"Whoever thought bulbs out of the ground could be so attractive. It takes time and intelligence to make them look like that."*  
—J. M. B.

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*"First of all let me compliment you and thank you for the business-like and efficient manner of handling the order."*

## THRIP CONTROL

During the growing season last Spring I sent out a letter to some of you regarding THRIP, that small insect pest that causes blighted flowers and damaged foliage on Gladiolus. Many friends report that they had wonderful blooms while others nearby were not quite so fortunate. Seems to be like influenza, perhaps you have them and perhaps you don't, but it does seem that it would be well to take some precautions both in regard to the bulb when harvested and during the growing period of the plants. We have to spray and work with many other of the valued flowers in our gardens to obtain good results and surely Gladiolus are worthy of the same care.

As digging time is here, I thought some suggestions as to care of bulbs would be in order. Follow the usual method of digging and curing. After digging clean up the garden, burning all tops, leaves and old flowers. Do not leave any trash around to harbor insects.

When the bulbs are **thoroughly dry**, place them in paper sacks, shoe boxes or bags than can be covered or closed tightly. Then scatter over them a good dusting of Naphthalene Flakes and close container for two or three weeks so the vapor will kill any insects or eggs. Then be sure and open the containers so the bulbs will have air as they need air to keep well. This is inexpensive treatment, easily carried out and if used by all whether or not we have had any damage by Thrip, it will help control the pest.

Then before planting if you want to make doubly sure of clean bulbs, dip them for six to eight hours in a solution made up in the proportion of one ounce of Bi-chloride of Mercury to ten gallons of water. Your druggist will put this powder

up for you in the small amounts you need for small or large quantities of bulbs.

Use non-metal containers, as Bi-chloride of Mercury attacks metal. For small numbers of several varieties of bulbs we use large fruit jars. Put bulbs in jars, mix solution in larger container and pour over the bulbs, after six hours pour off the solution and plant the bulbs—easy to do? Remember Bi-chloride of Mercury is POISONOUS so do not leave around where humans or animals can get into it.

We treat every bulb we plant, destroying any questionable looking ones and treating only good clean stock, this is an insurance against any trouble from the outside. This treatment delays blooming a week or so. Allow for that if planning bloom for a certain time.

Peeled or sprouted bulbs should not be left in solution more than two hours.

As soon as spikes show up through soil, spray the shoots and soil with a solution made up in the proportion—one-third pound Arsenate of Lead, one pint of Baker's molasses and six gallons of water. Repeat the spraying each week until the bloom spike appears. It is possible that two or three sprayings with this solution will be sufficient if foliage stays nice and green. Use a good strong spray with the garden hose to keep the foliage clean. In many cases the latter method has been sufficient without the prepared spray, when you start with clean bulbs.

The above control measures are suggested as the simplest and most effective I could glean from pages of information from authoritative sources. I cannot speak from experience with Thrip trouble as we have had none in our gardens, but we have taken these precautions to keep free of them.

If spraying is delayed until flower spikes appear, nothing can be done to save the flower if thrips are present.

These suggestions may seem complicated but will probably take less time than it did for me to write this. Take a chance if you want to, you **may** have wonderful flowers without any trouble. Early planted bulbs seem less liable to attacks of Thrip than those that bloom during the warmest weather.

If there is any further information I can give you I will be glad to do so as we want to help any way we can to make your Glads a success in your garden.

During the blooming season you may see a diseased looking spike or flower. Cut the flower-spike off carefully, shaking it as little as possible, wrap in paper and burn, leaving the leaves to mature your bulb. Treated this way, you will probably have fine flowers next year. We find that many gardeners leave the damaged spikes on the ground, thus allowing the thrip to mature and increase. Instead of getting rid of them, you are actually helping them. Total destruction is not necessary—panic has needlessly destroyed many bulbs that could have been saved.

**Early planting** gives the best results as the thrips thrive in hot weather. Plant early even in districts where they do not have this insect as it is better to be safe than sorry.

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*"They were a fine lot and we greatly appreciate the generous supply of "extras" that we discovered in the box, and which will provide a delightful uncertainty to our glad garden."*

—W. R. V., California.

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*"May we thank you for your patronage and trust that we may have the pleasure of serving you to your entire satisfaction for many years to come."*

*Yours very truly,*

—A. H. Nichols.

## COLOR GUIDE

RED

Dickens, Koehl, Bennett, Shook, Gaffer, Moorish King, Persia,  
Our Selection, Pf. Triumph, Purple Glory, Red Glory, Red Lory,  
Red Phipps, Scarlet Bedder, Victor, Wurtembergia.

WHITE

Helen Wills, Mammoth White, Magna Blanca, Maid of Orleans, Sea Foam.

## **YELLOW & ORANGE**

Apricot Glow, Atherton, Betty Brown Eyes, Farrington, Ethelyn, Gay Hussar, Golden Dream, Golden Frills, Goldfinch, Nancy Hanks, Orange Butterfly, Orange Queen, Primrose Princess, Senorita, Tiplady.

## VIOLET BLUE

Aida, Ave Maria, Blue Danube, Knudsen, Konynenburg, Pelegrina, Rosa Raisa, Veilchenblau.

## LAVENDER

Dr. Moody, Minuet, Mary Frey, King Arthur.

## PINK, SALMON & ROSE

Nuthall, Coryphe, Coral Prim, Edith Robson, Emma, McCoy,  
Gloriana, Douglas, Sisson, Netherland Prince, P. Carter, Picardy,  
Phipps, Phyllis Miller, Radiant, Revue, Rose Mist, Salbach's  
Orchid & Pink.

SMOKIES

Bagdad, E. Aubrun, Marmora, Mother Machree, Pirie, Roi Albert, Tawny.





